

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 46-57 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

I. Restriction Requirement

In the Restriction Requirement mailed April 3, 2002, the Examiner indicated that Applicants should choose a set of claims for further prosecution from among the following groups:

- I. Claims 1 to 45, drawn to a molecular delivery vehicle;
- II. Claims 46, 48, 49, 50, 52, and 53, drawn to a nucleic acid comprising segments encoding an S peptide and a human VEGF;
- III. Claims 47 and 51, drawn to an isolated S peptide;
- IV. Claims 47 and 55, drawn to an isolated human VEGF;
- V. Claims 47 and 55, drawn to an isolated polypeptide comprising a fusion protein made from an S peptide and a human VEGF;
- VI. Claims 54, 56, and 57, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid made from segments encoding S protein and a human VEGF;
- VII. Claim 55, drawn to an isolated S protein; and
- VIII. Claim 55, drawn to an isolated polypeptide comprising a fusion protein made from an S protein and a human VEGF.

Applicants herein elect with traverse to pursue the claims of **Group I (Claims 1-45)** at the present time. Claims 46-57 are herein cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to Applicants' right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims pursuant to 35 USC §121 and claiming priority to this application under 35 USC §120.

## II. Election Requirement

In addition to the above Restriction Requirement, the Examiner made several species election requirements as described below.

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-45 are generic to a plurality of disclosed, patentably distinct species comprising carrier molecules recited in claim 6. In response to the species election requirement, Applicants herein elect with traverse the species of co-polymers recited in claim 6.

The Examiner further indicated that claims 1-45 are generic to a plurality of disclosed, patentably distinct species comprising nucleic acids, peptides, proteins, viruses, and the like, recited in claim 7. In response to the species election requirement, Applicants herein elect with traverse the species of nucleic acids recited in claim 7.

The Examiner further indicated that claims 1-45 are generic to a plurality of disclosed, patentably distinct species of targeting portions comprising wild-type S proteins, mutant S proteins, ribonuclease A, cellulose, calmodulin, and streptavidin recited in claim 8. Applicants respectfully point out that claim 8 recites adapters and not targeting portions. Nevertheless, in response to the species election requirement, Applicants herein elect with traverse the species of wild-type S-protein fragement of bovine or human ribonuclease A (known as ribonuclease I in humans).

The Examiner did not indicate a species election for the species of targeting proteins recited in claim 9. However, after speaking with Examiner Schnizer about this inadvertent omission, it was agreed that Applicants would voluntarily elect a species from the plurality of disclosed species of targeting portions recited in claim 9 in order to expedite prosecution of the application. Accordingly, Applicants elect with traverse the species of growth factors recited in claim 9.

The Examiner further indicated that claims 31-45 were generic to a plurality of disclosed, patentably distinct species of pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, including water, gelatin, lactose, starch, and the like, recited in claim 45. In

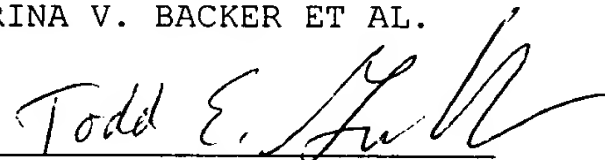
response to the species election, Applicants herein elect with traverse the species of water recited in claim 45.

If a telephone conference would aid in the continued prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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